## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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of the things that I told the members of that General Affairs Committee that day and, ironically, everyone of them agreed, everyone of them and, in fact, Senator Landis also said you're Here's what it was. You can put something absolutely right. out on the ballot for casinos and it isn't going to lower anybody's taxes one dime, not a dime. So Senator Kruse's Christian friend, anybody else's friends that think that by putting casinos on the ballot and bringing them to Nebraska will lower their taxes doesn't understand how the process works. This is not designed to be replacement money. The petition that's out there is not designed to replace property taxes for local communities. It's designed to give them more revenue, voluntary taxation. So, myth number one, casinos are not going to reduce property taxes. Number two, we have been told that the money or the revenue, and Senator Beutler has gone to great lengths to explain how much there was or would be, other economists have gone to great lengths to explain there wouldn't be that much, but either way, it's been concluded in the earliest part of the discussion that it's not the intent of this Legislature to take any revenue that would be generated from casinos and drop it back in the General Fund. That's not the goal. We don't want to do that. We want to have special funds, want to do special projects, want to do innovative things. Show of hands, has anybody heard of the Education Innovation Fund. Where is that money going? Has anybody heard of Environmental Trust Fund? Where is that money going? Maybe a hint, starts with General and ends with Fund. That's where the money is ending up. Let's not ignore the reality of the situation. The idea that somehow the creation of this new money, what Senator Jensen has pointed out is not new money but rather redistribution of the money, whether it goes across one border or not, whether it ends up in Vegas or whether it ends up in some state coffer, will not contribute to a reduction in the citizens of the state of Nebraska's taxes. It will not but that is what's driving this discussion in the public. And I know that because when I talk to people who say that I would like to do this, and I will admit fully that I've had less than 10 people from my legislative district contact me saying we need Okay. Now they may not want to contact me, I don't know, but I have town hall meetings. We had people come the other day and want to talk about the low-level radio waste suit